

1410 North Hilton, Boise, ID 83706-1255, (208) 373-0502

Dirk Kempthorne, Governor Toni Hardesty, Director

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING AN APPLICATION FOR A DRAFT TIER I PERMIT TO OPERATE AN AIR POLLUTION-EMITTING FACILITY

SUBJECT: Application No.T-050109 for a Tier I operating permit for an air pollution-emitting facility and proposed action: Avista Corporation. The company's general nature of business is the generation of electricity. They have applied for the renewal of their Tier I operating permit. Under a Tier I permit, no facility can increase emissions above those allowed in any current permit, consent order, or other enforceable document.

<u>PURPOSE</u>: The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has scheduled a period to receive public comments under Docket No. 10AP-0613 concerning the air quality aspects of the project application and the proposed action.

<u>AUTHORITY:</u> In compliance with Section 58.01.01.364, <u>Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho</u>, notice is hereby given that Avista Corporation, Spokane, Washington, has applied to the DEQ for a Tier I permit to operate an air pollution-emitting facility located approximately 2 miles S.E. of Rathdrum, Idaho at the intersection of Boekel and Meyer Roads. Notice is also given that a period for public comment has been scheduled along with an opportunity for a public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING OPPORTUNITY: Pursuant to Section 58.01.01.364, opportunity for a public hearing for interested persons to appear and submit written or oral comments may be provided if written requests are submitted to the undersigned on or before June 28, 2006. Hearing requests should include a brief statement explaining why a public hearing on the air quality aspects of the project would be beneficial.

The selected meeting site will be accessible to the physically disabled. Interpreters can be provided upon five days notice for persons with hearing impairments. For arrangements, contact the undersigned at (208) 373-0234. Braille or taped transcripts can be provided after the meeting for persons with visual impairments.

PROPOSED ACTION: The DEQ has reviewed the application and completed a draft Tier I operating permit based on the information submitted by the applicant.

Based on this analysis, the DEQ proposes to re- issue a draft Tier I operating permit to Avista Corporation. Following the public comment period (and public hearing if requested), the DEQ will evaluate comments received and develop a proposed permit. The proposed permit will be submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for a 45-day review period. The Tier I operating permit will either be issued to the facility or redrafted if the EPA provides substantive comments that would result in an EPA veto of the proposed permit.

AVAILABILITY OF MATERIALS: A package containing the information submitted by the applicant, DEQ's analysis, and the draft action will be available for public review at the following locations:

DEQ State Office DEQ Regional Office Rathdrum Branch, Library

1410 N. Hilton 2110 Ironwood Parkway 16780 Hwy 41 Boise, Idaho Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Rathdrum, Idaho

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS, ASSISTANCE ON TECHNICAL

QUESTIONS: Anyone may submit written comment regarding the project and proposed action. To be most effective, comments should address air quality considerations and include support materials where available. Comments, requests, and questions regarding the public comment process should be directed to Joan Lechtenberg, Department of Environmental Quality, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83706-1255, jlechten@deq.idaho.gov, or (208) 373-0234. Please reference the company name and docket number when sending comments or requesting information.

For technical assistance on questions concerning this project or the permitting process, please contact Bill Rogers at (208) 373-0502 or william.rogers@deq.idaho.gov.

All written comment and data concerning this proposal must be directed to and received by the undersigned on or before 5:00 p.m. MDT, July 11, 2006.

DATED this 9th day of June 2006.

Joan Lechtenberg
Air Quality Division